

www.scoutswales.org.uk

CIRCULATED:
FEBRUARY 2009



*Cyngor Sgowtiaid Cymru—The Welsh Scout Council:
Supporting the development of young people in Wales*

FROM THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

2009 sees a world of uncertainties. We will have an uphill struggle to maintain all we hold dear in Scouting, but that is the challenge for this year. We can only 'Do Our Best'.

Census time is now.

Please can you make a huge effort to get this done on time. Last year Wales was not complete until April, a month and a half later than the majority of the UK. Apart from looking very inefficient, the chasing up makes so much more work when it is quite unnecessary. We all know it has to be done, so please endeavour to be prompt. I'm hoping that at the next Area Commissioner's meeting, on 7th March, everyone will be able to report final numbers and with luck an increase in numbers as well.

Keep smiling

Jill

CELEBRATIONS IN PEMBROKESHIRE



Pictured above are Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scouts from Pembrokeshire who, having gained their Chief Scout Award during the past year were invited to a special presentation evening on Saturday, 22nd November, 2008. An invited audience of parents, Leaders and local VIPs applauded the Award winners who were presented with a certificate to commemorate their achievement by Area Vice President, Mr A L Buttle, MBE, DSM

SAVE THE WHALE WEEK - 8-14th June

Raise funds for Save the Whale Week

This year's theme is **RED**. So show your support this summer by raising funds, having fun and keeping it **RED**! Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Organise a Wear Red day
- Hold a red themed cake/cookie/biscuit sale
- Throw a red themed party
- Hold a red themed quiz
- Organise a sponsored red themed activity

Cake Challenge

Your challenge is to design and bake a cake (or cakes) with a whale, whaling or red theme and raise funds around it. You can choose any of the following ideas or come up with your own;

- Cake auction or raffle
- Guess the weight of the cake competition
- Guess how many chocolate chips/sprinkles are on the cake competition
- Sell slices of cake to your family/friends/teachers etc
- Have a cake decorating party where your friends pay to decorate a cake and you choose which cake wins!



Just remember to take a picture of your cake before it gets eaten and send it to the organisers with details of how you are raising funds. The organisers will judge the best cake, with the cleverest fund-raising idea! Contact details are below.

The winner will receive a special goodie bag from the shop, and a picture will be printed in the autumn edition of our POD News! For your FREE Save the Whale Week Fundraising Pack go to www.wdcs.org/savethewhaleweek or email the Events Team on events@wdcs.org or call 01249 449500



LIKE THE NEW LOGO?

Poloshirts and sweatshirts etc embroidered with the new logo are now available from the ScoutsWales office. All colours are available, so you can have anything from navy blue to shocking pink!!

Cost? £15 for a poloshirt and £21.00 for a sweatshirt.

Want to know more? Then e-mail: admin@scoutswales.org.uk or ring 01446 795277

All garments can be personalised with your name/appointment/Group name within the price.



HELP THE NATIONAL TRUST IN SOUTH WALES

The Community Woodland Warden with The National Trust for Mid and SE Wales is looking to make contact with local Scout Groups as he has sites that he can offer for activities and tasks that may be of interest to groups - mostly clearing and burning felling waste and the following planting up. They are based in the Brecon Beacons, with woodland mostly in the Brecon and Abergavenny areas. They also have bunkhouse accommodation - available free to volunteer groups.

If any of this is of interest, please get in touch or pass on contact details of those who may be interested.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact:

The National Trust
Tim Bennett
Assistant (Community) Woodland Warden
Mid & South East Wales
07917 591 859
01874 625 515



JOIN THE 'A' TEAM

AWESOME, the All Wales Explorer Scout activity weekend, is inviting people to join the team as staff.

Any adults in Scouting - Leaders, Network, whatever - are welcome to get involved with putting on this fantastic Explorer Scout camp in Glanusk Park, Crickhowell, from 11th-13th September 2009.

Whatever skill you have, we'll be able to use you. If you're interested, contact Carlton

Gronow : carlton.gronow@btinternet.com



NEW APPOINTMENT

The Chief Commissioner is pleased to announce the appointment of Sue Ryan as Commissioner Wales (Adult Training). Sue is taking up her appointment on 1st February, 2008 and can be contacted at:

adultraining@scoutswales.org.uk



BEAVER SCOUT THOUGHTS

A Happy New Year to you all. Another year and the search for new and exciting programmes and activities continues. To help you with this, the Wales Beaver Scout Team have been updating the requirements pack for the Beaver Scout Award for Wales and we hope to launch it at the Wales team meeting in March. By then the details should all be on the Welsh Scout Council website, although you will be able to buy a hard copy, in the original green folder if you do not have internet access.

The Beaver Scout Award for Wales was launched more than ten years ago and designed to encourage Beavers to appreciate their heritage and promote welshness in their programmes and activities. The new version will include more adventurous activities and has been brought in line with the new Programme Zones, increasing the number of elements to seven. Two of these (Wales and Outdoor & Adventure) will be compulsory, with three to be chosen from the remaining elements (Fun, Friends, Environment, Awareness, Arts). Two activities must be chosen for each element, making a total of ten. Other changes include links on the ideas pages to align with Programme Zones and a resource sheet including a list of additional resources such as useful websites. Linking the elements to the Programme Zones, means that whatever you choose will fit into the Balanced Programme and will often be suitable as part of a challenge badge as well.

As before you must register with your Area at the start and then complete the award within twelve months. You will still need to keep a record, such as a scrapbook, video/DVD or photo collection of the activities attempted and send an end of award report to your ADC and AAC in order to get your badges.

If you have just started, or are in the middle of the award, don't worry, you can finish and present badges on the old arrangements until the end of 2009. If you don't know about the WBSA, let your AAC know, and they will be pleased to arrange a presentation for one of your District meetings later in the year.

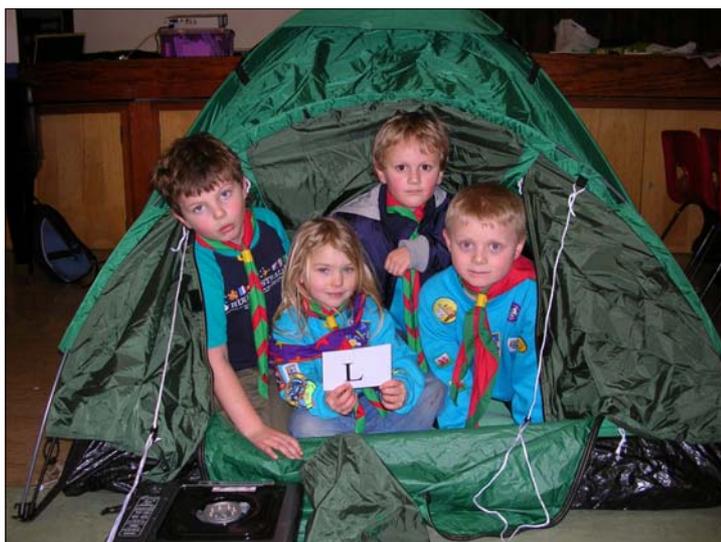
To go with the relaunch of the WBSA, the Wales Beaver Scout Team are suggesting that each Area/District/Group bases their summer activity/Fun Day around the new requirements and that Colonies try to organise a sleepover to coincide with the event, (sleepover Saturday night and go on to the Fun day in the morning, or fun day on Saturday followed by sleepover that night). The dates suggested are 20/21 June (see enclosed flier).

So there it is. Let me know what you think and I look forward to hearing about lots of memorable summer events across the country, celebrating the Welshness of Scouting.

BARBARA TURTON

COMMISSIONER WALES (BEAVER SCOUTS)

beavers@scoutswales.org.uk





CUB SCOUT LEADERS' CONFERENCE

The idea of a Conference for Cub Leaders and Pack Section Assistants is still in the pipeline, and final plans have not yet been agreed. The proposed date in 2009 is October 24th or 25th, and the venue will be in Llandrindod Wells. If plans are not completed in time, the Conference will have to be deferred until 2010.

The cost of such a day is the prime factor, and it is estimated, at this time, that the cost would be about £10, which would not include lunch, but tea / coffee would be available during the day.

- How much would Leaders be prepared to pay?
- What would Leaders want to have included?
- How many of your Leaders would attend?

Please respond to me direct by e-mail:
cubs@scoutswales.org.uk

or telephone: 01244 814363

If there is insufficient interest, then the Conference will not go ahead.

MAY CASTREY
COMMISSIONER WALES (CUB SCOUTS)

WATER ACTIVITIES 2009

The Water Activities Programme for Wales is now available on the website—look at www.scoutswales.org.uk. Copies are enclosed for all Scout, Explorer Scout, Scout Network

Leaders and some others. Book early for all events—this programme is very popular!!



THINK U KNOW

What is 'Think U Know'?

'Think U Know' is a government initiative aimed at keeping young people safe online. More information can be found at www.thinkuknow.co.uk

CEOP have developed 'Think U Know' resources designed to be delivered to young people of Scout and Explorer Scout age. The resources give practical advice to young people about how to stay safe and still have fun online.

Only adults who have been specially trained can access and deliver the materials to young people. These adults must have been CRB checked by the Scout Association prior to applying.

What does the training involve?

The training for adults takes half a day and is available to Child Protection Co-ordinators and others nominated by Areas in Wales.

The training provides a background to the way young people use the internet and some of the risks involved. There will also be a briefing about Scouting's safeguarding arrangements. Adults when trained will visit Scout Troops and Explorer Scout Units to deliver this exciting material to young people.

Where, when and how to book?

Saturday, 7th March in Llandrindod Wells. To book visit the ScoutsWales website and click on the event title for the booking form.



DC CONFERENCE

This event will take place on Saturday, 21st March at the Media Resource Centre, Oxford Road, Llandrindod and is for District Commissioners and their Deputies, those considering or about to take on a District Commissioner appointment and Area Commissioners.

Full details of the programme, have been sent out by post but you can also look at www.scoutswales.org.uk To book e-mail your name, District, Area and any dietary or other additional requirements to: admin@scoutswales.org.uk or ring the ScoutsWales office to book a place.

Important
DATE!



Explorer Report, Jan 09 – Buff's Blog

Simon Fairless, Commissioner Wales (Explorer Scouts)

As 2009 gets underway many of us are looking forward to camps in the spring and summer, however let's not forget about the added challenge of a winter camp. Camping in the colder months presents us with a little more preparation – is our sleeping bag warm enough? Are my waterproofs up to the task? Where's my stash of chocolate bars? But the satisfaction gained from meeting the elements well prepared and not only surviving the weekend, but thoroughly enjoying the occasion is priceless. Organised events (Gilwell Winter Camp etc) are easy to include into our programme and I recommend trying these large national gatherings from time to time. But why not set yourself a different challenge – a winter survival camp. No tents, no stoves....back to basics Ray Mears style. Construct your own bed for the night from natural resources (or possibly a comfortable hammock), purify river water for drinking....and learn to cook something a little different – a rabbit, or pheasant or maybe a nice piece of fish!



2009 also sees the launch of the Welsh bid for the 2011 World Jamboree in Sweden. Many of you will be regularly checking our website (www.scoutswales.org.uk/explorers/worldjam) for information. Leadership selection is already underway and I would urge any of you who fancy being a part of a Jamboree Unit at the biggest Scout camp you will ever attend, to visit the website and download the application form. Participant selections gets underway in September.



AWESOME 2009 preparations are also well underway. This "All Wales Explorer Scout Out of Mind Experience" will be looking to build on the previous successful events in 2005 and 2007. See the main advert elsewhere in this publication.



A CHILD WITH A HEARING IMPAIRMENT IN THE SCOUT GROUP?

Some years ago we were expecting a child who was Deaf to come to Beavers. I could already use Makaton, but knew that would not be enough to allow proper communication with a Deaf child, so I started to learn BSL. In the event the child moved out of the area, but by that time I was hooked! I love using sign language, so when we received another enquiry about taking a child who is profoundly Deaf, I jumped at it.

Since he has been with us, he has joined in really well with everything we have done. Some of our other Leaders have learned to sign as well, and as if that's not enough, some of the other children can also communicate with him. We always explain to new Beavers that they will see us using sign language, because one of our Beavers is Deaf. Everyone in the Colony signs the opening ceremony and the Tail Slap at the end. In fact, not only did our Deaf Beaver Scout make his Promise using BSL but we now make a point of teaching the Promise in BSL to all new Beavers.

Communication isn't an issue. If something needs to be explained, one of the Leaders who can sign explains it to him, but such a lot of Beaver Scouting is about having fun, that he only has to see what the others are doing to join in. We obviously have to be careful regarding safety, and what would happen if we ever had to evacuate the premises – at the hall, or on Camp.

He is now linking to the Cub section, and the other Cubs have been practising their alphabet so they can tell him their names and where they live. As in Beavers, I interpret where necessary, just asking people to slow down, because I still – even after all this time – can't sign very quickly. I checked the signs that are specific to Cub Scouting (eg Grand Howl etc) with my last sign language teacher, who offered to come to Cubs and do some work with the youngsters. That was great!

2nd/4th Barry has quite a reputation for working with young people who are disabled, and as a

Group, we all look after each other, so it has not been difficult for us to include a Deaf child.

AVERIL LEGGETT
2ND/4TH BARRY SCOUT GROUP



LOOKING FOR PROGRAMME IDEAS?

RNIB Cymru have trained a number of young volunteers between the ages of 16-24 to deliver visual awareness presentations to other young people. They are now looking to deliver training to other young people and particularly want to contact Cub Packs, Scout Troops and Explorer Scout Units.

They are willing to travel to any part of Cardiff, parts of Gwent, parts of RCT the Vale and Bridgend

Their visits are provided free of charge (however some groups have offered a small donation as a thank you), and include information on eye health, Braille, basic guiding techniques and generally raise awareness on life for blind and partially sighted people. They are interactive and great fun.

If you want to find out more please contact:
Rosie Lewis as follows:

rosie.lewis@rnib.org.uk
02920 449583

RNIB Cymru
Trident Court
East Moors Road
Cardiff
CF24 5TD

*Important
DATE!*

MEDIA DEVELOPMENT MANAGER and YOUNG SPOKESPEOPLE TRAINING EVENTS

FOR 2009

Are you interested in helping to promote the best of Scouting through the media? In 2009 we plan to run five training days for people interested and involved in the Media Development Manager and Young Spokesperson roles.

Each training day will be providing the following opportunities:

Prospective Young Spokespeople

The target audience for this event are 14- 16 years old Explorer Scouts. The experience will help those attend to talk confidently to local Print, TV and radio journalists about the Scouting activities they involved in.

Newly appointed Media Development Managers (MDM's)

The target audience for this event is newly appointed MDM's. This experience will help those who attend understand and value the Scout brand, spot and craft a story and pitch it to journalists.

Experienced Media Development Managers (MDM's)

The Target audience for this event is MDM's that have been in post for some time and who know how to spot a story, can craft a press release and can pitch a story. The event is designed to help experienced MDM's with skills like working with TV crews, brief and support YSP's and



work on feature based events
Where and when?

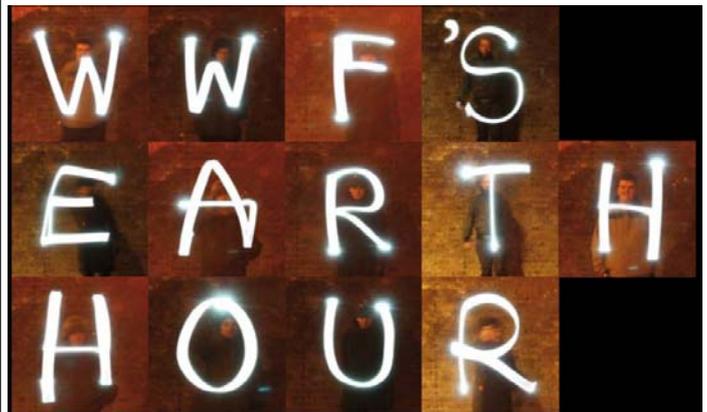
The dates and locations for these training events are as follows

1 March - Gilwell Park
27 June – Birmingham
11 July - South/SW location tbc
10 October – Wales – Cardiff
28 November – Manchester

Anybody can attend any event. They are not regional specific. There will be no cost for any of these events. You will need to make your own way to each venue. Lunch, tea and coffee will be provided.

If you would like more information about each experience please email:

Pat Cracknell@scout.org.uk or call Simon Carter on 020 8433 7260.



MORE PROGRAMME IDEAS— THIS TIME FROM WWF!!

WWF would very much like to invite all Scouts to take part in WWF's Earth Hour 2009 on March 28th 2009. They would like to encourage community groups to take part in activities in the week before the 28th and are currently writing some activities which we hope your members may enjoy. For greater clarification of this global event here are some more details for you and links to the Earth Hour Website—www.wwf.org.uk/earthhour



AWESOME is back! The All Wales Explorer Scout activity camp offers Explorer Scouts a weekend of **TOTAL OUTDOOR ADVENTURE**.

Utilising the fantastic location of Glanusk Park set in the rolling Welsh countryside on the banks of the River Usk, AWESOME will offer true down and dirty outdoor activities that are not available on some other events.

If you like getting muddy and wet, smelling of smoke, and dangling from heights, then AWESOME is the weekend for you! All this for just £25 for Explorers, £6 for Leaders.

Activities are yet to be confirmed at this early stage, but examples of stuff that will be offer are survival skills, rock climbing, zip wire, open fires - and as we're camped next to the Usk it'd be rude not to include canoeing and rafting.

The weekend is open to all Explorer Scouts from across Wales and the rest of the UK – and that includes Young Leaders who aren't a member of a regular Explorer Scout Unit.

The online booking system goes live at www.scoutswales.org.uk/explorers/awesome in March so get in early to ensure your Explorers get a weekend of...

**TOTAL
OUTDOOR
ADVENTURE**

**AWESOME 09:
11th-13th September 2009
Glanusk Park,
Crickhowell, Powys, Wales**



..... AND MORE PROGRAMME IDEAS!!!

Look at www.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces for lots of ideas about things to do, places to go and information in general about wildlife.

Find out how to feed the wild birds, make a bug home, make a home for hedgehogs plus lots of information.





DON'T FORGET!!

Don't forget to claim certificates for those young people and adults who have completed their 8 4 8 Challenge! Apply to the ScoutsWales office, giving the number of certificates you require and the name and address of the person they are to be sent to—and then arrange a special presentation evening to celebrate your success!! If you have done something really special let the ScoutsWales Office know and it will be reported in the next edition of Sgowtiaid!

Below is a list of what the 1st Cowbridge Beaver Scout Colony has done to achieve their 8 4 8 badges! Their Leader Gill Clay has sent in the following report:

1st Cowbridge Beaver Scouts have much enjoyed joining with nearly 2,000 other Scouts in rising to the challenge. These were some of the activities and adventures they undertook to take part:

SCIENCE AND SPACE:

17 June: A visit to Techniquest with other Beavers from the Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Area to gain their Beaver Scout Science Badge.

COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY:

23 Oct and several weeks thereafter: Learning some Semaphore letters and words, e.g. SOS, RUN, HELP.

23 Oct: Making Thank you cards and writing thank you letters.

THINK GREEN & ENVIRONMENT:

18th Oct: A Colony Activity Day with activities based on the theme "Paper".

30th Oct: Visit Coed Hills Rural Artspace - alternative energy - woodland management - and mud!.

CAMPING & ADVENTURE:

16-17th May: Beaver Sleep-over: Theme: "Shelter". Build a dam in a stream.

16th Oct: Bike Safety Ride with two Community Police-men. Mend a puncture with Simon's Cycles

18th Oct: Colony Activity Day: Make and float paper boats on the River Thaw.

CARING & FITNESS:

5th June: Visit the Amelia Trust Farm.

9th Oct: Visit Warren Mill Farm Park.

2nd Oct: Explore Miskin Mill woods.

GET CREATIVE:

25th Sept: Enter the Chubb Calendar competition - an illustration for each month of the year.

20th Nov: Make pottery Christmas tree decorations, which were then fired.

27th Nov: Make Christmas tree or table decorations - miniature crackers with corks and tinfoil.

INTERNATIONAL:

11th Sept: Water Aid games, including carrying water in paper cups on their heads to fill buckets.

FAITHS & BELIEFS:

18th Dec: Visit candle-lit Llanfrynach Church near Cowbridge - a wellie walk with torches down a muddy lane - act a spontaneous Nativity Play with the Curate and sing the nativity story in Carols.





DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD GOLD EXPEDITION

Looking for a opportunity to undertake a Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition?

ScoutsWales will be running an "open" gold expedition from it's centre at Hafod in Snowdonia this summer. This will be open to any members of Scouting who wish to complete either a final assessed expedition or undertake complete expedition training including a final practice expedition.

The event is intended as an opportunity for individuals or small numbers who are unable to form their own team to undertake an expedition.

The event will run from 21st August to 29th August 2009 and will be staffed by experienced expedition supervisors and assessors.

The cost will be £150 which includes all food, accommodation, camp fees and transport during the week.

Further information and application forms can be obtained from Wyn Owen, Glyn-deri Farm, Llanelli, SA14 7EL, Tel - 01269-844029, e-mail - wyn.owen@jobcentreplus.gsi.gov.uk or see the Hafod website www.yr-hafod.org.uk

10TH WORLD JAMBOREE PHILLIPINES 1959

Please can you help trace some Scouts who attended the above Jamboree.

A small group of Scouts from the United Kingdom are trying to trace all the Scouts who attended this Jamboree as they are planning a reunion sometime in July this year to mark the 50 years anniversary of this very special Jamboree. Those who attended would never forget the wonderful occasion.

Those attending from Wales were as follows:

The Leader was:

- Norman Gilbert, TreYork, Rhymney Mons

Scouts were:

- Hugh Edward Billot, 123 Cae'r Wenallt, Pantmawr, Rhiwbina, Cardiff
- John Miles, 14 Allerton St, Grangetown Cardiff
- Michael Philip Walters, 46 The Parade, Barry, Glam.
- Ronald Barry Watkins, 69 Channel View, Bulwark, Chepstow, Mons.

Obviously these addresses are 50 years old, but it may help to jog memories. Any help would be much appreciated, please make contact with:

Roger Norman

East London District Scout Council

Tel : 01268 743 065

Fax : 01268 743 353

Mobile : 07860 294 749

E-mail roger.norman1066@btinternet.com

Or John Harris at: harrisjohn5@sky.com

Or Mike Philips at: msphillips@btinternet.com



You can contact the ScoutsWales office by:

E-mail: admin@scoutswales.org.uk

Website: www.scoutswales.org.uk

Telephone: 01446 795277

Fax: 01446 795272

Writing to: The Old School, Wine Street,
LLANTWIT MAJOR CF61 1RZ

Don't forget:

- Deadline for next edition: **30th April, 2009** If your Area, District or Group would like to share an idea or an event please send in details by this date.
- If you receive this copy 'Sgowtiaid' but are no longer in Scouting, make sure your name is removed from the database and hand on your copy to someone else.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

28th February:

- Board of Trustees

7th March:

- Area Commissioners Management Meeting;
- Commissioners Wales Meeting;
- Think U Know training event.

21st March:

- District Commissioners' Conference.

28th March:

- Team Day.

1st to 4th May:

- River Wye Canoe Cruise

CAN YOU HELP?

I am the GSL of 44th Medway Towns. We are a small group located in Rochester. We have very good solid Beaver, Cub and Scout sections and have just opened an Explorer section. Small at the moment but hoping to grow.

Like many Groups out there next year is the 80th Anniversary of our Group being in existence. We have numerous activities arranged for next year to celebrate this event. We have also asked the Scouts to design a badge which will be given to each current member and sold to anyone else who would like to buy one. They have also designed a flag which one of our leader's parents is making for us. This flag will be in the hall all year and when we go to camp we plan on flying it with the other flags we normally fly.



However, I hope you can help me with another idea that one of the Leaders has come up with.

We would like each Group within the County, Country and World (if we can) to contribute one of their Group name badges so that we can attach it onto another flag. We would like to see how many we can collect over the year. At the end of the year we will be mounting the flag in a frame and it will then be displayed in the hall for all the time that the group is in existence. If for any reason the Group ever folds then this will be passed to head office. If any Group that does send us a name badge could also put an e-mail address in with it we will supply a photo at the end of the year showing the flag and how many name badges were collected.

Would you be willing to help us with our request? If you can help contact me on grace@newbiggs.fsnet.co.uk and I will supply you with my address details for the badges to be sent to—many thanks for reading this, I do hope you can help us.

Grace Newland
GSL 44th Medway Towns